

Crisis Counseling Program for Larimer and El Paso Counties

Information from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

What Is the Mission of the CCP?

The mission of the Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) is to assist individuals and communities recovering from the challenging effects of natural and human-caused disasters through the provision of community-based outreach and psycho-educational services.

What Is the CCP?

The CCP is composed of two grant programs:

- Immediate Services Program (ISP)— 60 days in duration
- Regular Services Program (RSP)— 9 months in duration

The CCP is:

- Authorized under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act)
- Funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Culturally competent, understanding, respectful, and sensitive to the cultural makeup of communities served

What Services Are Funded by the CCP?

- Individual Crisis Counseling—Done in the field, not in an office. Helps survivors understand their reactions, improve coping strategies, review their options, and connect with other individuals and agencies that may assist them. No records are created or kept for these services. It is not insight oriented. There is not a contract, consent for treatment, or guaranteed confidentiality because of the nature of field work (although team members work to maintain confidentiality at a high level).
- Basic Supportive or Educational Contact— General support and information on resources and services available to disaster survivors.
- Group Crisis Counseling—Group sessions led by trained crisis counselors who offer skills to help group members cope with their situations and reactions.
- Public Education—Information and education about typical reactions, helpful coping strategies, and available disaster-related resources.
- Community Networking and Support— Relationship building with community resource organizations, faith-based groups, and local agencies.
- Assessment, Referral, and Resource Linkage—Adult and child needs assessment and referral to additional disaster relief services or mental health or substance abuse treatment.
- Development and Distribution of Educational Materials—Flyers, brochures, tip sheets, educational materials, and Web site information developed and distributed by CCP staff.

- Media and Public Service Announcements—Media activities and public messaging in partnership with local media outlets, State and local governments, charitable organizations, or other community brokers of information.

Next Steps

The State of Colorado is in the RSP part of the CCP, which lasts 9 months. The two counties are implementing the program, under the direction of providers AspenPointe Health Services (El Paso County) and Touchstone Health Partners (Larimer County). The team in El Paso County has been named, the Waldo Support Team, and the team in Larimer County has been named the Mountain Outreach Team. The RSP part of the grant will run from October 23, 2012 – July 22, 2013.

Waldo Support Team (El Paso County)

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